

Abstract

Methods of investigation of crimes committed by youth

Methodology for investigation of crimes committed by youth is a compact system of procedures used by criminalists while investigating crimes committed by youth. For purposes of this thesis the term youth includes the category of age from twelve to twenty-four years. Well-elaborated methodology shall help criminalists to quickly and effectively deal with situations when there is a reasonable suspicion due to found traces, or method of committing a crime, that the offender was a person of this age category.

This thesis introduces typical personal and psychological characteristics of youth. The thesis outlines which crimes are committed by this group most commonly and which factors cause the delinquent behavior of youth. The thesis presents typical traces which occur when youth commits crime, and methods of committing which point to the young age of offenders. According to these characters we can assume that the crime was committed by youth offender and therefore it is important to use a special methodology for the investigation.

The very core of the thesis is devoted to investigative processes, especially subsequent investigative procedures and its specifications. Greatest attention is focused on questioning the offender as thorough preparation of the questioning and consistent compliance with all rules of interrogation is crucial for clarifying the crime. Other investigative steps, such as questioning witnesses, confrontations or recognitions are also presented

Another part focuses on the peculiarities of criminal proceedings against the youth. This part describes certain circumstances which must be met to keep the proper conduct of criminal proceedings. These include necessary defense, or cooperation with the legal representative of the youth offender or cooperation with the entity of the social-legal protection of children.

The final part deals with the crime prevention. Preventing youth in committing crimes seems to be more efficient and usually cheaper solution than the subsequent repression of crimes. Delinquency of youth is considered as a problem of the whole

society and therefore detailed methodology which responds to current problems needs to be developed.